Hakuta na Gun and HappyScans! Praudly Present: Tiger Mask (Valume 01)

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SFX: THUMP
HEAVE-HO!
PHEWW...
I THINK WE'VE POUNDED IT ENOUGH.
POUNDING RICE CAKES IS SO FUN!
HOORAY! WE'RE POUNDING RICE CAKES!
HEAVE-HO...
OH, MY..
SO, DID YOU SPREAD THE FLOUR ENOUGH?
OOH, IT'S HOT!
BUT...
NOW, NOW, SHIN, THAT'S BECAUSE YOU RUSHED..
OW, OW, OW!
NOT TOO FAST OR YOU'LL BURN YOURSELF
ROLL IT OUT CAREFULLY

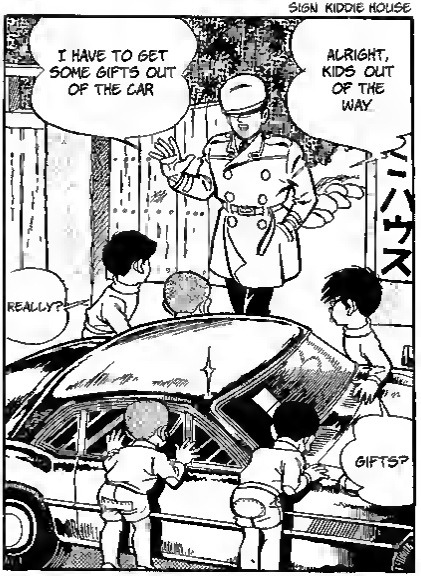
SFX. VROOOM
OHH
ブーロロ〜ン
...
?
.. THAT THIS HOUSE WILL BE TAKEN AWAY VERY SOON
THESE POOR KIDS DON'T KNOW ..
...
T-THAT CAN'T BE..
HUH?
THERE'S A SWEET FOREIGN CAR OUTSIDE!
HEY, GUYS!
SFX. SKREEK
キキッ
SFX. SLAM
バタン
...

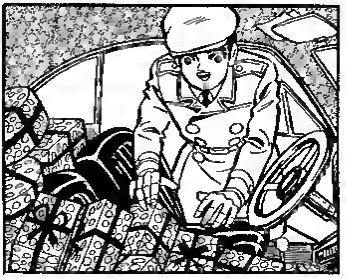
AT LEAST LET US FINISH THE YEAR
YOU'RE FROM THE AKANUMA GANG ?
!
...
...
...
IT'S SO COOL!
WOW! A FOREIGN CAR! IT'S A STRAINER CAR!
...

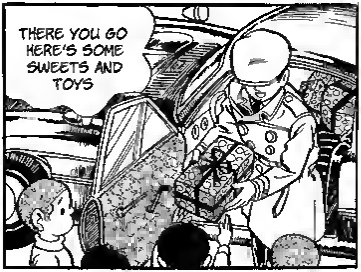
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THE AKA-NUMA GANG
IT LOOKS SO SHINY!
IT'S BEAUTI-FUL!
HEY, IT'S A SPORTS CAR!
I'M SORRY... WHO ARE YOU?
BUT RURIKO, YOU'VE BECOME QUITE THE BEAUTY
YOU TWO REALLY HAVEN'T CHANGED AFTER ALL THESE YEARS
IT'S ME!
HEHEHE! CORRECT!
N.. NAOTO!
NAOTO DATE! YOU'RE NAOTO DATE!
REMEMBER.. THE BOY WHO ESCAPED THE ZOO TEN YEARS AGO..?
OH, COME ON, I'M NOT THAT BIG A DEAL
I HAVEN'T
OH, COME ON! ME? FAMOUS?
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE BECOME RATHER FAMOUS
OH, MY!
YOUR FACE IS SO FAMILIAR I RECOGNIZED YOU AFTER TEN YEARS
BUT I ENVY YOU, RURIKO!

HMM...
OH.
AND HE MOVED TO HEAVEN NOT LONG AGO, SO, I INHERITED A LOT OF MONEY...
I JUST FOUND THAT I'M RELATED TO A BILLIONAIRE IN HAWAII!
BY THE WAY...
HMM...
ASK HOWEVER MUCH YOU WANT!
ALRIGHT, HOW ABOUT I MAKE A DONATION?
...
...
THE ORPHANAGE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE GOING WELL, LIKE ALWAYS

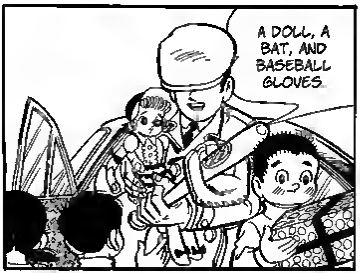
OKAY!
GO CALL THE OTHERS WHO'RE INSIDE


I HAVE TO GET SOME GIFTS OUT OF THE CAR
ALRIGHT, KIDS OUT OF THE WAY
REALLY?
GIFTS?

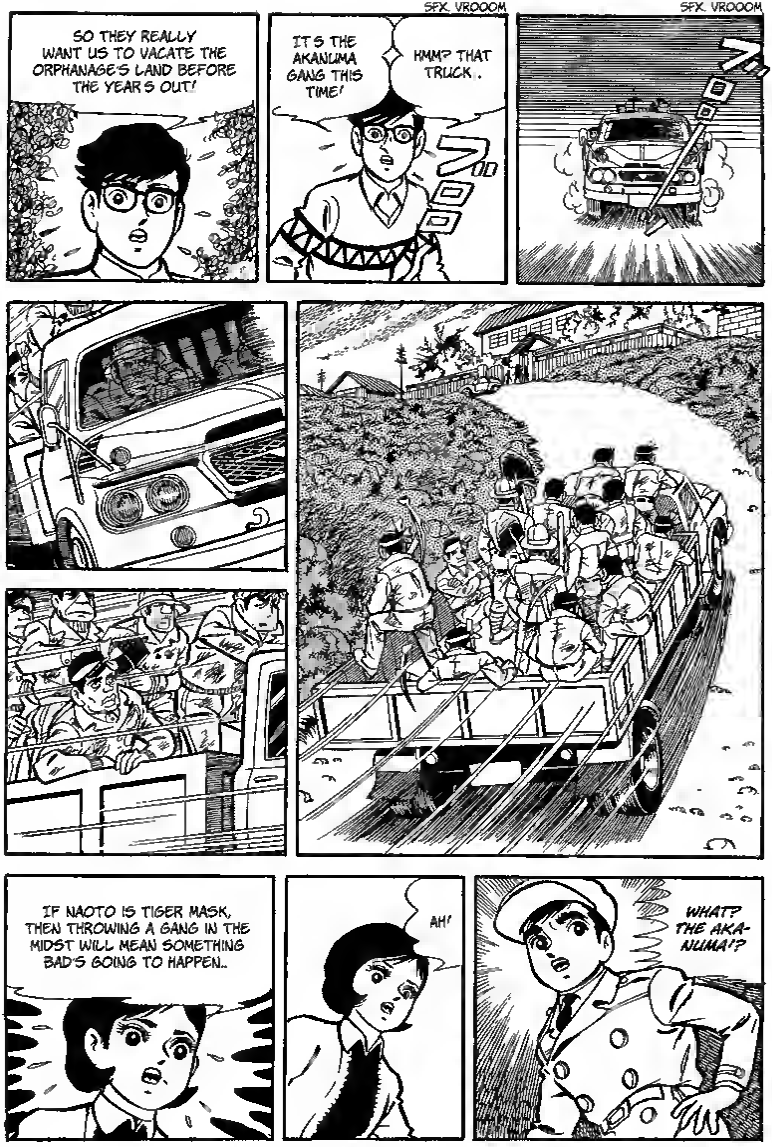



THERE YOU GO HERE'S SOME SWEETS AND TOYS

HURRY, HURRY!
HE SAID HE HAS GIFTS FOR US!
YEEEAH! YEEEAH!
DOES HE HAVE DOLLS?
LET'S GO!


A DOLL, A BAT, AND BASEBALL GLOVES

HEY-YY!
HUH!? WHAT WAS THAT!?
HEHEHE! I'M NOT THAT..
MISTER, YOU LOOK PRETTY SCATTERBRAINED, BUT I GUESS YOU'RE A GOOD GUY.
HE WAS RELATED TO A MILLIONAIRE IN HAWAII...
I-I CAN'T BELIEVE IT..
I MUST BE DREAMING.
THIS IS REALLY A MIRACLE
AH!
YEEEAH, SANTA CLAUS HAS ARRIVED!
B-BUT IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S GOTTEN EVEN MORE SCATTERBRAINED THAN BEFORE. I DOUBT THAT HE'S BEEN TRAINING FOR TEN YEARS IN THE TIGERS CAVE..
HE COULD BE TIGER MASK..
NAOTO CAME BACK JUST AFTER THE PRO WRESTLER TIGER MASK ARRIVED IN JAPAN..


SO THEY REALLY WANT US TO VACATE THE ORPHANAGE'S LAND BEFORE THE YEAR'S OUT!
IT'S THE AKANUMA GANG THIS TIME!
HMM? THAT TRUCK..
SFX. VROOOM
SFX. VROOOM
IF NAOTO IS TIGER MASK, THEN THROWING A GANG IN THE MIDST WILL MEAN SOMETHING BAD'S GOING TO HAPPEN..
AH!
WHAT? THE AKANUMA!?

?
!
!
YEAH, YEAH! YOU THINK YOU CAN TAKE IT EASY AND POUND RICE LIKE THAT!
PERFECT TIMING. PACK THOSE FRESH RICE CAKES INTO YOUR LUNCHBOXES AND GET OUT OF HERE!
WE CAME HERE TO DESTROY THIS OLD DUMP!
LOOK AT ALL THE LITTLE KIDS AND TEACHERS WITH WHITE HANDS AND FACES
OH-HO... YOU'RE POUNDING RICE FOR THE NEW YEAR?

IT'S NOT THAT LONG TILL NEW YEARS" AND YOU WANT TO TAKE THE HOUSE FROM THESE CHILDREN AND FORCE THEM INTO THE COLD WIND? THAT'S JUST TOO MUCH!
W-WAIT A MINUTE!
RURIKO!
I'M SCARED
THIS IS AN ORDER FROM THE AKANUMA GANG'S BOSS!
YOU WANT US TO FORCE YOU OUT..?
SHUT THE FUCK UP!
NAOTO... I'M REALLY ASHAMED TO SAY THIS, BUT...
CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON?
THERE'S NO NEED TO BE VIOLENT...
HEY, WAIT..
HMM...
WITH THE RISING COST OF LIVING, WE COULDN'T KEEP THE ORPHANAGE GOING, SO WE BORROWED MONEY WITH HIGH INTEREST.
...THINGS HAVEN'T CHANGED MUCH SINCE YOU LEFT TEN YEARS AGO.

WHOOPS.. SLIP OF THE TONGUE, I JUST SAID WHAT I WAS THINKING.. I'M SORRY!
HEY..! YOU CALLING US THUGS!?
I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT YOU WERE SKATING ON THIN ICE, BUT WHY'D YOU HAVE TO BORROW FROM THESE THUGS..?
EXACTLY.. AND IN PLACE OF MONEY, THE AKANUMA GANG'S GONNA TAKE THIS LAND AND BUILD A MOTEL FOR TRUCKERS!
NO, WE BORROWED THE MONEY FROM SOMEONE ELSE, BUT WHEN WE DIDN'T RETURN IT, HE ASKED THE AKANUMA GANG TO COLLECT IT.
B... BABIES!?
BUT I BELIEVE THAT THE ORPHANAGE IS WAY, WAY MORE IMPORTANT THAN SOME DINGY MOTEL, BABIES...
I GET IT..
AHHH!
HIT THE ROAD!
YOU FUCK-ING SNOB!
SO WHY DON'T WE TALK THIS OVER LIKE GENTLEMEN..
OOPS, I MEAN AKANUMA GANG

OHH!
UG-HH!
IF YOU HURT THESE PEOPLE, YOU'LL ONLY CAUSE MORE TROUBLE!
NAOTO, BEAR WITH IT!
OW, OW, OW!
S... SORRY ...
AHHH!
SON OF A BITCH!
SFX. BANG!
BHV OOOOOH!
B- B- B-

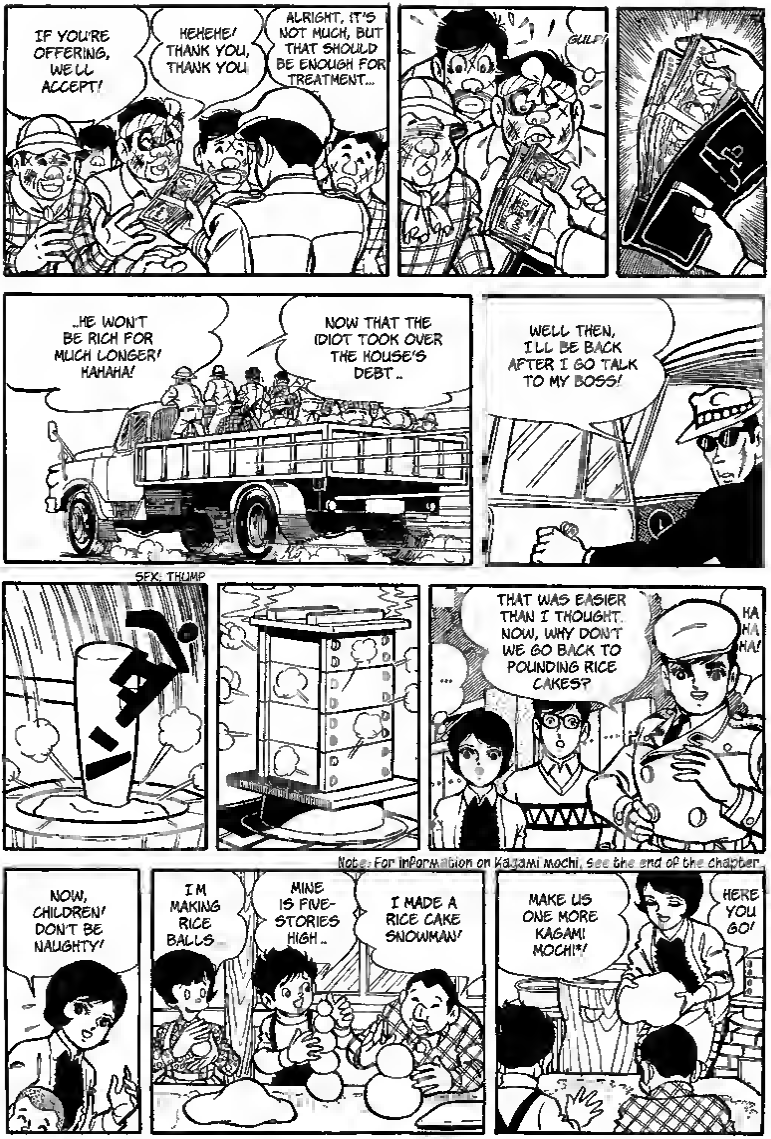
STOP SCURRYING AROUND, WILL YA!?
GODDAMN IDIOT!
OOPS
W... WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?
SFX. BAM
SFX. SWISH
FGAHFGAH-FPEEH...
M-MY JAW..
SHIT!
SORRY ABOUT THAT!
URGH!
SORRY, LET ME PASS!
AHH! I'M A PACIFIST!
HERE I GO! I'LL SHOW YOU ANOTHER WAY TO USE A SHOVEL!
ガガッ
SFX. SWISH

?
HEY, WHY THE HELL DID YOU HIT ME?
SFX: BANG
OUCH!
カ
SFX: THUD
カ
NOW YOU'VE DONE IT!
SFX: POW
ガ
TAKE THIS!
SFX: SMACK
WHAT THE FUCK!?
コッ
DON'T PLAY DUMB!
W... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, I...
WERE YOU THE ONE THAT HIT ME ON THE HEAD!?
SFX: BAM
HEY, WHY'RE YOU HITTING ME?
!
ガッ
SFX: THUMP
カ
SON OF A BITCH!

HOW COME YOU'RE FIGHTING EACH...
STOP IT!
OHH...
TAKE THIS!
SFX: BAM
NOW YOU'VE DONE IT, ASSHOLE!
SFX: SMASH
DON'T ANY-BODY LOSE NOW!
GET 'EM!
WHAT?
HEY.. LOOK AT HIM, OVER THERE!
GOD-DAMN BASTARD!
MORON!
AHHH..
SON OF A BITCH!

HE'S A COWARD, THROUGH AND THROUGH HAHAHA! I'D EVEN CALL HIM AN ULTRA-COWARD! HAHAHA!
PFFFT! HE'S PRETTY WEAK, ISN'T HE?
T-THEY ALWAYS SAY THE RICH SHOULDN'T FIGHT... WHENEVER I SEE A FIGHT, I START FEELING FAINT... AHH..
AHH, STOP, PLEASE
THIS IS NO TIME TO BE LAUGHING, CHILDREN!
BUT HE'S SO WEAK... HAHAHAHA!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! SHE SAID THAT IF HE HURT PEOPLE, IT'D ONLY CAUSE MORE PROBLEMS!
BUT WHAT WAS THAT RURIKO SAID EARLIER..?
B-BUT NOW THAT THIS HAS HAPPENED, NAOTO MAY AS WELL HAVE ACTUALLY CAUSED A SCENE AS TIGER MASK
I CAN'T BELIEVE I THOUGHT THAT NAOTO WAS REALLY TIGER MASK!
I GUESS I REALLY HAVE AN OVER-ACTIVE IMAGINATION..

W..
WHAT?
BE SOLVED WITH MONEY...?
I MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT
I'M PRETTY RICH...
CAN THIS
PROBLEM...
LIS-
TEN..
YOU USED TO
LIVE IN THE HOUSE,
SO IF YOU DO...
Y-YOU CAN'T DO THAT,
NAOTO! IT'S NOT JUST
A LITTLE MONEY!
HOW ABOUT I PAY THE
ORPHANAGE'S DEBTS, ON
THE CONDITION YOU LEAVE
THE HOUSE AND LAND
ALONE, ALRIGHT?
SFX: BAM
HEY GUYS!
DID YOU HEAR
THAT? GET IN
THE TRUCK!
WE'RE
LEAVING!
WELL, THAT'S FINE. WE'VE GOT A RICH
GUY OFFERING TO PAY, SO WHY PASS
THIS UP, RIGHT? WE'LL GO TALK TO
THE BOSS OF THE AKANUMA GANG.
DON'T MENTION IT!
AFTER ALL, THIS
INHERITANCE BASICALLY
ROLLED INTO MY LAP!
SORRY,
I NEVER
THOUGHT
OF THAT
YOU GOT
THAT RIGHT..
HEHEHE!
AND MEDICAL
BILLS AREN'T
CHEAP...
BUT IT'S ALL
THAT RICH GUY'S
FAULT WE'RE
LIKE THIS NOW...
HEHEHE!
YES, OF
COURSE..
HEHEHE!


IF YOU'RE OFFERING, WE'LL ACCEPT!
HEHEHE! THANK YOU, THANK YOU!
ALRIGHT, IT'S NOT MUCH, BUT THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH FOR TREATMENT...
GULP!
..HE WON'T BE RICH FOR MUCH LONGER! KAHAHA!
NOW THAT THE IDIOT TOOK OVER THE HOUSE'S DEBT..
WELL THEN, I'LL BE BACK AFTER I GO TALK TO MY BOSS!
SFX: THUMP
THAT WAS EASIER THAN I THOUGHT. NOW, WHY DON'T WE GO BACK TO POUNDING RICE CAKES?
KA HA HA!
NOW, CHILDREN! DON'T BE NAUGHTY!
I'M MAKING RICE BALLS..
MINE IS FIVE-STORIES HIGH..
I MADE A RICE CAKE SNOWMAN!
MAKE US ONE MORE KAGAMI MOCHI!
HERE YOU GO!

Note: For information on Kagami mochi, see the end of the chapter.

YOU LOOK PRETTY TIRED.
LET ME TRY FOR A WHILE, WAKATSUKI
PHEW..! IT'S SO HARD WITH SO MANY PEOPLE...
MY GOODNESS YOSHI, WHAT DID YOU DO? YOU'RE ALL COVERED IN FLOUR..
SFX: SPIT
YA-AAH!
SHHHH
WELL THEN, GO RIGHT AHEAD!
ALRIGHT, KEEP IT COMING!
SFX: SHOCK
SFX: THUMP
SFX: SHAKE SHAKE
KEAVE-HO!
WHOA, NOW...
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
HA HAHA!
PFFFT.. HEHEHE!
KAHAHA! THEY SAY HANDSOME GUYS DON'T HAVE MONEY OR POWER WELL, I DO HAVE MONEY. BUT I GUESS I OON'T HAVE POWER. HEHEHE...
OOOH.. THAT HURT.

AND SEE TIGER MASK ON TV!
AND WE CAN ALSO WATCH PRO WRESTLING!
AND PLAY BOARD GAMES AND CARD GAMES!
AND FLY KITES!
YOU'RE RIGHT! WE CAN PLAY BADMINTON!
S-STOP LAUGHING AT HIM! IT'S ALL THANKS TO NAOTO THAT WE CAN CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S EVE HERE
I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER WE CAN TRUST HIM..
ON TOP OF THAT, NAOTO LOOKS EVEN MORE SCATTERBRAINED THAN BEFORE
SURE, WE'RE ABLE TO MAKE IT SAFELY TO NEW YEAR'S, BUT THIS SEEMS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE...
TIGER MASK!
SFX: THUMP
SFX: SHAKE SHAKE
OKAY...
R-REALLY?
NAOTO, PLANT YOUR FEET WELL! YOU GOTTA PUT YOUR BACK INTO IT!
OKAY!
PHEW..

Kagami mochi, literally mirror rice cake, is a traditional Japanese New Year decoration. It usually consists of two round mochi (rice cakes), the smaller placed atop the larger, and a daidai (a Japanese bitter orange) with an attached leaf on top. In addition, it may have a sheet of konbu and a skewer of dried persimmons under the mochi. It sits on a stand called a sanpo over a sheet called a shihobeni, which is supposed to ward off fires from the house for the following years. Sheets of paper called gohei folded into lightning shapes similar to those seen on sumo wrestler's belts are also attached. The two mochi discs are variously said to symbolize the going and coming years, the human heart, "yin" and "yang", or the moon and the sun. The "daidai", whose name means "generations", is said to symbolize the continuation of a family from generation to generation.)

SFX. YAY YAY YAY
GO FOR IT, MISTER!
HUFF..
SFX. THUMP
THERE!
SFX. YAHOO YEEEAH YAHOO YEEEAH
AND SO, TO SAY THE LEAST, THEY HAD A FUN NEW YEAR'S.
SFX. YEEEAH YEEEAH
PRETTY SHAMEFUL FOR SUCH A BIG GUY!
SFX: YAHOO YAHOO
THAT'S IT, DO IT AGAIN!
SFX: WOOO WOOO WOOO WOOO
Happy New Year!
New Year Showdown!
BUT AS THE YEAR 1968 BEGAN, WHAT LIVENED UP THE PRO WRESTLING WORLD AND DREW THE ATTENTION OF THE FANS WAS...